

2016 AQHA YOUTH WORLD CUP TEAM CANADA QUALIFYING CRITERIA – OVERVIEW

1. All applicants must be members-in-good-standing of the American Quarter Horse Youth Association, the Canadian Quarter Horse Association, and a youth member of their Provincial Quarter Horse Youth Association, or a youth member of a Canadian, Provincial, Regional Reining or Cutting Association, where they reside.

If you are a current AQHA or AQHYA member-in-good-standing, you are eligible to be a CQHA member for no extra membership fee in 2015. However, you must identify yourself to CQHA. You may do so by logging on to our website at http://www.cqha.ca/membership_forms.htm to submit your CQHA membership application on-line, or by contacting the CQHA President: Haidee Landry, 19751-16th Ave, Langley, BC V2Z 1K2 or Phone: 604-530-805 to request the membership form be sent to you by mail or fax.

All applicants must be Canadian citizens, Canadian residents, and must meet the age requirements as set forth in the AQHA Handbook of Rules & Regulations. Applicants must continue to be age-eligible to compete as youth in 2016.

2. All Applications must be completed and submitted no later than July 31, 2015. (Postmark)
3. Applicants must submit their past show records and achievements (AQHA, NRHA & NCHA show records) for the following classes:

GROUP A: Category 1 Western Horsemanship, Western Pleasure, Hunt Seat Equitation, Hunter Under Saddle, Showmanship, Western Riding and Trail

GROUP B: Category 1V Reining, Trail, and Cutting

Note: Confirmation of AQHA points earned in 2015 up to July 31 may be also be forwarded for consideration by the Team Canada selection committee by July 31, 2015, but only as addendums to applications previously submitted prior to July 31, 2015.

4. For Groups A and B, points submitted must be accompanied by an AQHA printout or confirmed by the show secretary if the shows were too recent to be entered in the AQHA computers. (See application package Appendix 2).
5. Year-end achievements from Provincial/Regional Quarter Horse Associations & Open shows will be considered for team selection and must be confirmed by each association (achievements posted on Association websites will be acceptable proof, if website links are provided).
6. For Group B, points earned by the Canadian, Provincial/Regional or American Reining and Cutting Associations will count as selection criteria.
7. -A. Credit will be given to the rider with the greatest point accumulation on as MANY horses as he or she may have shown during the qualifying period January 1, 2012 to July 31, 2015.
-B. List previous achievements on any other horses before 2012.
8. Consideration will be given to the rider who:
 - 1- Is competitive in many categories.
 - 2- Has beaten the greatest number of horses in youth competition.
 - 3- Has experience in the youth shows at high caliber horse show(s)
 - 4- Has demonstrated ability to take direction while riding and follow it
 - 5- Is a mature individual who can focus on tasks, is responsible, is reliable, is polite and hardworking, and who works well with team mates.

The Team Coach and Manager will conduct telephone interviews of their shortlist of candidates and/or their coaches/trainers/references to aid their selection process. References are VERY important, be sure to include with your application package. (See Application Package –Appendices B & C.)

The Team Canada Selection Committee will take into consideration and try to have youth from as many different Provinces/Regions in Canada to represent Canada as the best possible Youth World Cup Team Canada.

9. Team selection and participation shall be under the direction and authority of the Team Canada 2016 Youth World Cup Selection Committee made up of AQHA/CQHA Directors, and the 2016 Canadian World Cup Team Coach and Team Manager. Decisions of this committee will be final. The committee will select up to five (5) youth members to compete, two (2) alternate riders, and may select up to two (2) non-competing leadership members.

10. A-Applicants are advised to submit their application and supporting documents by Canada Post in a binder or report cover. Scan or save the application forms and documents in electronic format to be submitted to the Team Coach, if chosen. Application packages must include three (3) letters of recommendation/reference, one from a riding coach/trainer (rider applicants only) and one each from the applicant's AQHA affiliate's Youth advisor or AQHA/CQHA director; and one personal reference who can verify their school/community involvement. (See Application Package - Appendices C & D.)

B- Applicants must specify if they are applying as a riding team member, (including alternate riders) or as a leadership member (non competing team member), or for both categories. Applicants will only be considered for the categories indicated by the applicant, so they should be sure to check all categories of intent. (Competing youth and non-competing youth are considered equally as team members for all activities. The non-competing youth do not ride the horses, but they are valuable assets for the team.)

C- Applicants must send a short video of themselves showing and/or schooling a variety of horses, which may, or may not, be owned by the applicant. This video should be made using current technology so that it may be viewed on a computer or DVD player. The video should demonstrate the full range of the applicant's skills AND include an audible interview with the applicant (e.g. further elaborating on item D below).

D-1) Applicants MUST include a letter explaining why they would like to be part of the team and why they should be chosen. Describe what skills and strengths they have i.e., what they would bring to the team. Applicants should provide a statement describing their riding/showing accomplishments, such as year-end awards, and results achieved at championships at provincial regional, national and/or international level shows in which the applicant competed and in which classes. Applications should list trainers they have worked with, and whether they were given opportunities to ride other horses or in other disciplines (jumping, dressage, etc.)? Which class is their strongest? Which is their favourite?

-2) Leadership only applicants should write a separate letter on what skills can they bring to the team? Are they prepared to do manual labour – feeding, cleaning stalls, and cleaning tack, etc?

-3) All applicants should describe their horse preparation skills, i.e. can they braid or band, clip a horse, put in a tail attachment, dress hooves, basically prepare a horse for World level shows? Rate each of your horse preparation skills from 1 to 10, with 1 being “never done it” to 10 being “people would hire me at high level shows”.

-3) All applicants should submit a “head and shoulders” photograph, preferably a professional photo, with or without riding attire. This photo may be used on websites, magazines, show programs, advertising, etc., Therefore the quality of the photo MUST be good. A high resolution digital image (at 300 dpi) at 5” x 7” maximum size may be emailed (preferred) or a hard copy print 8” x 10” maximum size, should be included in the Application Package.

The CQHA 2016 Youth World Cup Application Package
is available on the CQHA website